

# 2012 Clean Water Indiana Grant



LEAD DISTRICT: FULTON  
 COLLABORATING DISTRICTS: WHITE, PULASKI  
 TARGET WATERSHED: TIPPECANOE RIVER  
 PROJECT NAME: CREP IN THE TIPPECANOE RIVER  
 WATERSHED  
 PROJECT DATES: 5/1/2012-4/30/2015  
 PROJECT AMOUNT: \$40,000

The Clean Water Indiana (CWI) Program was established to provide financial assistance to landowners and conservation groups. The financial assistance supports the implementation of conservation practices which will reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution through education, technical assistance, training, and cost sharing programs.

The CWI fund is administered by the Division of Soil Conservation under the direction of the State Soil Conservation Board. The (CWI) Program is responsible for providing local matching funds as well as grants for sediment and nutrient reduction projects through Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation Districts. CWI also contributes critical state matching funds for Indiana's Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, an initiative which utilizes federal funds to encourage landowners to conserve environmentally sensitive land.

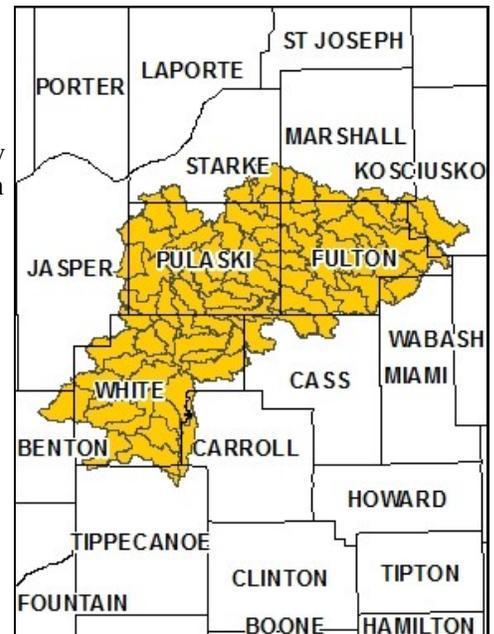
Furthermore, the (CWI) Program has supported the Conservation Cropping Systems Initiative which focuses on management systems approach to crop production which results in improved soil and water quality as well as profitability on Indiana cropland.

During state fiscal year 2012, the State Soil Conservation Board awarded 21 Clean Water Indiana grants totaling \$1,078,000. Grant funds can be used for Cost Share Incentives, Technical Assistance, and Adult Education (maximum of \$1,000 per year).

## Purpose: Encourage conservation practice installation

The Tippecanoe River Watershed was selected for the project because there are a variety of resource concerns that include: surface water quality, ground water quality, and threatened and endangered species. Approximately 24 percent (524 miles) of streams within the watershed have identified impairments. Excessive amounts of sediments, nutrients, and bacteria degrade the water quality. The watershed has over 500,000 acres of soils with a high leaching index (>10) which allows contaminants on the land surface to be carried easily into the ground water. Promotion of CREP practices and cost-sharing on cover crops will improve soil and water quality significantly by applying proven conservation practices to the land.

Cost-share will be provided to interested producers for planting or fly-on of cover crops in Fulton and White counties. Historically, there are more producers requesting cost share assistance than White and Fulton counties have been able to provide. With funding through CWI, the cover crops that are so beneficial to our land and water will be increased in this area of the Tippecanoe River Watershed.



PERMANENT NATIVE GRASSES, HARDWOOD TREE PLANTINGS, PERMANENT WILDLIFE HABITATS, RIPARIAN BUFFERS, FILTER STRIPS AND WETLAND PROJECTS ARE SOME OF THE ELIGIBLE BMPs IN THE CREP PROGRAM.

A local professional will contract with Fulton, Pulaski and White County SWCD's to make one-on-one contacts with landowners/land managers whose land might be eligible for one or more CREP practice.

